Navajo County Community College District
Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2026 – 10:00a.m.
Northland Pioneer College Painted Desert Campus
Tiponi Community Center Board Room
2251 East Navajo Boulevard, Holbrook, AZ 86025

Governing Board Members Present: Chair Everett Robinson; Mr. Porter Black; Ms. Rosie Sekayumptewa; Ms. Kristine Laughter; Derrick Leslie (Remote – left at 11:00am)

Governing Board Members Absent:

Others Present: President Von Lawson; EVPLSS Michael Solomonson; VPAS Maderia Ellison; VPHR Nicole Ulibarri; AVP Michael Jacob; AVP Katie Matott; AVP Dr. Farah Bughio, AVP Rich Chanick; Rebecca Hunt; Julia Wilson; Dr. Jeremy Raisor; Josh Rogers; Horacio Luna; Rennie Gonzales; Cynthia Blevins; Melissa Willis; Tiffani Martin; Pamela Bishop; Dr. Alexander Henderson; Muriel Metcalf; Debra Gibbons; Chelsea Wood; Brynn Chlarson; Justin White; Jesse Reeck; Erika Lord; Alethia Broderick; Jessica Kitchens; Russell Kupfer; Francis Skibicki; Dr. Allison Landy; Sam McDowell; Deena Gillespie; Louis Gillespie; Betsy Ann Wilson; Ed Wilson; Ryan Jones; Rickey Jackson; Kathryn Berlin; Beth Giacalone; Dora Jaquez; Tammy Black; Michelle Blunt; Inez Schaechterle; Shawntel Skousen; Andi De Bellis; Pat Lopez; Dr. Gary Santillanes; Dr. Eleanor Hempsey

Remote Attendees: Jeanette Hancock; Dr. Jeri Lastine; Talaina Kor (Painted Desert Tribune); Mike Gaffney; Aaron McCollam; Aidan Berge; Dr. Alexandra Stritmatter; Amber Ferguson; Autumn Sprengler; Benjamin Sandoval; Benhamin Turner; Brittany Jones; Brynna Johnston; Calandra Walker; Candace Morehouse; Candy Canter; Shannon Newman; Charity Butler; Chelsea Wood; Christopher Cribbs; Cyndee Nichols; Ruth Zimmerman; Dale Bowman; Diane Joe; Dora Jaquez; Lora Decker; Georgette Hackman; Ina Sommers; Iris Yesslith; Jaqueline Salazar; Janalda Nash; Janice Childres; Jefferson Hunt; Jennifer Brimhall; Jonelle Sinclair; Julius Marshall; Karen Baker; Karen Zimmerman; Keith Alsobrook; Kelsey Cox; Kimberly Bishop; Kimberly Reed; Kimberly Terry; Leticia Albert; Lia Keenan; Libby James; Lori Moore; Melody Niesen; Monique Fowler-Pacheco; Norvita Charleston; Pamela Dominguez; Rachel Townsend; Rebecca Diggs; Reina Arizmendi; Renee Freese; Rhonda Paladino; Robert Railey; Samuel Terry; Shandiin Deputee; Stacy Rollins; Stephanie Guinn; Susan Jensen; Dr. Tabitha Stickel; Tamora Herring; Tom Watkins; Thyra Jensen; Tia Owens; Todd Wilcox; Tony Rhineheart; Tori Tessay; Tracy Meijas; Dr. Wei Ma; Xu Xie

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

Chair Robinson recommended Agenda Item 9 be moved to follow Agenda Item 3 to accommodate Mr. Leslie's schedule. The Board agreed and the modified agenda was approved.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

Agenda Item 3: Emeritus Awards

Deena Gillespie
Deena Gillespie was recognized for her years of experience at the College since 1998. The discussion highlighted her extensive experience in Records and Registration, cross-training of staff, improvements to registration/advising processes, electronic graduation applications, and her role in helping the college transition toward paperless operations.

Agenda Item 9 was moved to follow Agenda Item 3

Agenda Item 9: For Discussion and Possible Action

9.A. Old Business
There was no old business to review.

9.B New Business

9.B.1 **Adjustment to the FY2025 Adopted Budget**
Director of Financial Services Russell Kupfer requested the Board accept and adjustment to the FY 2025 Adopted Budget to reconcile the budget with actual financial activities.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to accept the adjustment to the FY2025 Adopted Budget with Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

9.B.2 **Adoption of the FY24-25 Annual Expenditure Limitation Report**
Director of Financial Services Russell Kupfer requested the Board adopt the FY24-25 Annual Expenditure Limitation Report. Director Kupfer reported that the district exceeded its expenditure limitation, as anticipated. The resulting penalty was approximately $20,000. He explained that this was understood to be the final year in which legislative relief from the normal penalty structure would apply; absent another legislative change, the district could face the regular penalty schedule in the following year. The underlying audit was reported as having gone well.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to adopt the FY24-25 Annual Expenditure Limitation Report with Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

9.B.3 **Request to approve additional design fees for Kayenta**
Director of Facilities and Transportation Justin White requested the Board approve additional design fees due to electrical and water tank design changes for the Kayenta project. Chair Robinson asked for more information on the specific changes which Director White clarified. Ms. Laughter asked VPAS Ellison for clarification on where the funding for these changes would come from. VPAS Ellison stated that the funding cannot come from the college and that the grant would cover it. She also noted that she was not sure if the money would come from the grant itself or the interest earned from the grant.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

Chair Robinson asked if there were any additional questions regarding the request. There was a correction in the request clarifying that the request is for $52150 not $52120. He then called for the vote with Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

9.B.4 **Request to accept grant funding from the Halle Foundation.**
AVP for External Relations Rich Chanick requested the Board accept grant funding from the Halle Foundation in the amount of $700000 to construct an Industrial Arts Lab in Kayenta, fund 3 professors for the community-based site-built homes program and purchase a bus to facilitate workforce transportation access.

Ms. Laughter and Ms. Sekayumptewa expressed gratitude for the work being done to help the students in their districts. Chair Robinson then called for the vote with Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

9.B.5 **Request to accept grant funds from SRP**
AVP for External Relations Rich Chanick requested the Board accept grant funds from SRP in the amount of $25000 to assist with the required match from Congressionally Directed Spending to resurface the driving track at the NATC.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to accept the grant funds with Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

9.B.6 **Request to approve Chief Fiscal Officer Resolution**
VPAS Maderia Ellison requested the Board approve the resolution to approve the official resolution designating her as the Chief Fiscal Officer for the Navajo County Community College District.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to approve the resolution Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter, Mr. Leslie and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

9.B.7 **Request to approve travel for Board Member Lesile**
Recording Secretary Julia Wilson requested the Board approve travel expenses for Board Member Leslie to travel to the 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress in Chicago, Illinois on October 21-24, 2026.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to approve the request for travel expenses for Board Member Leslie. Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. Mr. Leslie abstained from voting.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

9.B.8 **Request to approve travel for Board Member Sekayumptewa.**
Recording Secretary Julia Wilson requested the Board approve travel expenses for Board Member Sekayumptewa to travel to the 2026 ACCT Leadership Congress in Chicago, Illinois on October 21-24, 2026.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to approve the request for travel expenses for Board Member Sekayumptewa. Mr. Black, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson all voting in the affirmative. Ms. Sekayumptewa abstained from voting.

9.B.9 **Board Curricula Requests**
Chair Robinson requested President Lawson to address three curricula requests from the Board.

9.B.10 **Request to Cancel the July 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.**
Chair Robinson requested the Board cancel the July Regular Meeting.

Chair Robinson called for the vote to approve the request to cancel the July 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Mr. Leslie, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voted in the affirmative. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 4: Call for Public Comment

Ms. Shannon Newman requested and received permission to address the Board. The Board did not comment on the statement, but will consider the matters at a future meeting.

Agenda Item 5:

5.A Standing Presentations

5.A.1. Financial Position

Vice President Ellison provided the Board an update on financial results for the period July 1 through March 31.

- General Fund
  - Revenues were approximately $31.1 million.
  - Expenses were approximately $26.7 million.
  - Results were generally consistent with the prior year, when revenues were approximately $31.2 million and expenses were $25.7 million.
  - Unrestricted plant assets were somewhat higher than the prior year, reflecting increased construction and renovation activity, including projects at the college's locations.
- Restricted Funds
  - Revenues appeared lower than the prior year, primarily because the previous year included approximately $9 million from the Canta grant, which had been received in advance.
  - Excluding that grant, current-year revenues were generally in line with the prior year, increasing from approximately $5.1 million to $5.6 million.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

- Auxiliary Fund
    - The auxiliary fund remained relatively small, with approximately $348,000 through March compared with approximately $216,000 at the same point the prior year.
    - Revenues and expenditures were approximately equal.
- Financial Reporting
    - March financial statements were presented instead of the usual April statements because the Finance/Business Office was behind schedule while adjusting to changes associated with the Anthology system.
    - The expectation was that reporting would be brought current over the summer.
    - Property-tax receipts for the month were approximately $762,000, consistent with prior years.

2. Recognition of Business Office Staff

VPAS Ellison recognized the Business Office team, particularly Russell Kupfer and Scott Flake for their work during the implementation of Anthology and other financial-system changes.

- The financial module of Anthology became operational in February.
- Implementation was accomplished largely through redistribution of existing staff responsibilities rather than significant additional staffing.
- The team continues to address reporting issues and work toward implementation of the budget module.
- Staff throughout the Business Office took on additional responsibilities involving system testing, implementation, purchasing, requisitions, training, and maintaining normal workflow during the transition.

3. New Payment Gateway and Processor

The Board was updated on implementation of a new payment gateway and credit-card processor.

- The existing payment processor was not compatible with Anthology, requiring the Business Office to identify and procure a new vendor.
- The new system, TouchNet, replaced three existing vendors and provides a more streamlined payment process.
- The system supports credit-card payments and incorporates PCI compliance protections for sensitive financial and personal information.
- The new technology allows credit-card equipment to be deployed across all college locations, eliminating previous procedures in which some locations had to contact the Business Office to process student credit-card payments.
- TouchNet also supports refunds and other financial disbursements.
- The administration reported that the transition has been positive overall, with staff moving beyond the initial learning period associated with implementation.

4. Financial Compliance and Audits

VPAS Ellison also discussed financial reporting and compliance responsibilities.

- The Business Office must meet numerous statutory and regulatory requirements, including requirements associated with the State Auditor's Office and external financial auditors.
- Two major annual reports, the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and the Single Audit Report were issued toward the end of February.
- VPAS Ellison expressed a goal of improving the timing of these reports and returning to a December issuance schedule.
- The required deadline for completion is March 31.

Northland Pioneer College

Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

5.A.2. NPC Student Government Association (SGA)
No report.

5.A.3. NPC Faculty Association
No report.

5.A.4. Classified and Administrative Staff Organization (CASO)
CASO President Cynthia Blevins presented the Board with an update as listed below:
1. Board and leadership updates

- Tiffani Martin, President
- Francis Skibicki, Vice President
- Chelsea Wood, Treasurer (Second term)
- Rebecca Diggs, Secretary (Second term)

5.A.5. Northland Pioneer College (NPC) Friends and Family
NPC Friends and Family Director Jesse Reeck presented the Board with an update on NPCFF activities.
Key activities included:

- Completion of awards and graduation-related activities for the fall 2026 general application cycle.
- Continued textbook, fee, and emergency-fund assistance, particularly for students experiencing delays related to the new financial-aid system.
- A new Kickstart Scholarship pilot for new students and students returning after at least a year away.
- The first Teacher Scholars Award, supporting an educator-preparation student who must leave other employment to complete student teaching.
- Continued recruitment for additional scholarships, including scholarships associated with graduates and firefighters.
- Upcoming transportation grants and student scholarship opportunities.
- Mini-grants approved to support Student Success and Outreach initiatives, cleanups, and environmental learning communities.

5.A.6. Human Resources
VPHR Nicole Ulibarri presented the Board with an update on HR activities.
Highlights included:

- The next new employee orientation is scheduled for August 12.
- There is currently one new hire for the month and four recent departures.
- There are approximately 12 open positions.
- Current employee census/turnover data was reported at 6.54, although a complete 12-month comparison was not yet available.
- Weekly Friday office hours will continue to help employees navigate the new online hiring and HR systems.
- Upcoming supervisor training will focus on project management.

The employee wellness program was highlighted as one of HR's major accomplishments. Events are being offered across the college's locations and are open to employees broadly. Importantly, employees may participate in wellness activities during the workday rather than clocking out.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

VPHR Ulibarri also acknowledged the department's improved stability after a long period of turnover and disruption. The team was praised for adapting to changes in implementation schedules and new systems.

5.A.7 Construction Report

Director of Facilities Justin White presented the Board with an update on the Kayenta and Winslow projects.

Construction activity was described as progressing well.

Major updates:

- Ground has been broken and underground utility work is underway in Kayenta.
- Numerous RFIs have been approved, and the project remains on schedule.
- A second phase at the Kayenta property is being designed as a steel building due to the grant funding that was recently received. The exact program occupying the building has not yet been determined.
- Final designs expected to be shared with the board as soon as they are available.
- The Winslow multipurpose building remodel/addition is progressing, with final design expected within a couple of weeks and bidding anticipated afterward. The goal is to begin construction around October 1.
- The Winslow parking lot is essentially complete with four light poles still outstanding.
- A SharePoint site was planned to provide the board with ongoing construction updates and photographs.

5.A.8. Leadership Council

No report.

5.A.9 ERP Implementation Update

Project Manager Colleen Marsh provided the Board an update on the ERP Go-Live Status.

Highlights included:

The ERP implementation is progressing, although several critical integrations remain. The team is working on integrations with other systems and expects significant progress over the next several weeks to months.

Additional resources have been brought in to:

- Clean up data.
- Address configuration issues.
- Support the ERP implementation.
- Resolve problems before the Fall.

Leadership is also working with the vendor's new leadership team to determine how previously promised concessions can still be honored.

The broader technology strategy includes:

- Integrating systems such as Anthology and TouchNet.
- Improving the student experience through more connected systems.
- Increasing internet bandwidth across campuses.
- Building infrastructure capable of supporting emerging technologies.
- Improving existing technology and library services.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

5.A.10 External Relations
AVP Rich Chanick provided the Board with an update.
Highlights included:
External Relations has added Erica Lord to help represent the college at community and government meetings, particularly given the college's large geographic footprint.
The legislative report was considerably more concerning:

- AC4 had sought $64 million in additional funding from the State Legislature, but that request was not funded.
- Adult Basic Education (ABE) funding was not included in the state funding outcome.
- Federal ABE funding is also uncertain.
- Leadership is already developing a Plan B in case federal funding is ultimately reduced or eliminated.Participation in the Navajo Nation Economic Development Conference**.**
- Hiring Elaine Young**,** an economic-development professional with strong Navajo Nation relationships. Her position is currently funded through an SBDC grant through December 2027, but leadership wants to identify longer-term funding.
- Plans to participate in the annual Hopi Economic Development Conference**.**
- Strong results from a White Mountain Apache CDL cohort**,** which began with 11 students and had 10 remaining about halfway through the program.
- Support for potential opportunity zones in Holbrook and Winslow.
- Continued development of a relationship with Summit Healthcare, including the possibility of co-locating instruction and services.
- Exploration of Workforce Pell **o**pportunities.
- Increased visibility and funding for the College.
- Improved relationships with the Hopi and Navajo nations.
- Stronger relationships with healthcare organizations, including Summit Healthcare and Little Colorado Medical Center.
- Increased engagement with schools and communities.
- An educational water festival involving 23 teachers, seven schools, and 520 students**.**
- Growing relationships with Indian Health Service/health centers and other regional partners.
- Over approximately the previous 23 months, the college had secured $13,236,427 in additional competitive grants, with another approximately $12.75 million described as being in the pipeline but not yet confirmed.

The Board took a break from 11:30am to 11:35am.

5.A.11. Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT)
Chair Robinson provided a report on AACCT activities specifically concerning the loss of Adult Basic Education (ABE) funding.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

Agenda Item 6: Higher Learning Commission Financial Ratios

Director of Financial Services Russell Kupfer provided the board with the required annual HLC Financial Ratios review.

Highlights included:

- Strong financial position: The Composite Financial Index (CFI) remains well above HLC's minimum healthy threshold of 3.0.
- Primary Reserve & Net Operating Ratios: Both are well above HLC's financial-health thresholds.
- Viability Ratio: Not applicable because the institution has no bond debt.
- Return on Net Assets: Considered favorable, though inflation makes the measure more difficult to assess.
- 2025 improvement: Higher ratios were primarily attributed to grant funding and strong investment performance.
- Outlook: Ratios are expected to decline somewhat in the upcoming year as these factors normalize.

Agenda Item 7: President's Report

Dr. Lawson provided the Board a report including the following highlights:

1. Adult Education Funding

- The college is experiencing concerns related to adult education funding.
- Dr. Stickel and Dr. Solomonson are developing a proposal to address the issue proactively.
- The proposal is expected to come before the Board for consideration in the near future.

2. Arizona Attorney General Open Meeting Law Investigation

- In February 2026, the college received notice from the Arizona Attorney General's Office of an investigation into alleged Open Meeting Law violations.
- The investigation concerned whether meeting minutes were posted within the required timeframe for seven meetings held between September and December 2025.
- The college submitted the requested documentation and response.
- On June 11, 2026, the Attorney General's Office notified the college that the investigation was closed with no violations found.
- The investigation determined that:
  - The college was not required to post meeting minutes online within three business days.
  - Draft minutes were made available as required.
  - Audio recordings of the meetings were publicly available within three days.
  - The college website provided information about how to request meeting minutes.
  - No relevant request for minutes had been made by the complainant.
- The President emphasized the college's continued commitment to legal compliance, transparency, accountability, and sound governance.

3. Employee Recognition

- The President highlighted an unsolicited letter from a student praising Megan Paddock at the Winslow Campus.
- The student described experiencing significant difficulties during the transition from Moodle to Blackboard, including problems with grades, course records, and a scholarship.

NAVAJO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NAVAJO COUNTY ARIZONA FOUNDED 1973
Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

- Megan was specifically praised for taking ownership of the situation, resolving the student's issues, and helping ensure courses were properly graded.
- The President recognized Megan for her exceptional commitment to student service.

Dr. Lawson turned the time over to the remaining President's Cabinet members who did not have standing presentations to discuss accomplishments in their respective areas.

Learning and Student Services
Executive Vice President of Learning and Student Service Dr. Mike Solomonson reported on several accomplishments in his division.

- **Bachelor's Programs**
    - Bachelor of Applied Management
        - Spring 2025: 12 credits earned and less than 1 FTE.
        - Spring 2026: 153 credits earned and approximately 10 FTE.
    - Education Bachelor's programs including Early Childhood and Elementary Education:
        - Spring 2025: 105 credits and approximately 7 FTE.
        - Spring 2026: 208 credits and approximately 14 FTE.
    - The growth demonstrates increasing demand and expanded opportunities for students pursuing bachelor's-level credentials.
    - **Blackboard Transition and Accessibility**
        - Faculty and instructional support personnel worked extensively to transition courses from Moodle to Blackboard.
        - Despite the difficult timing and technical challenges, faculty successfully prepared courses for the spring semester.
        - Instructional support staff provided extensive assistance to faculty navigating Blackboard.
        - The college also worked to improve accessibility compliance.
        - An extension was obtained, moving the accessibility deadline to April 2027.
        - Dr. Solomonson credited faculty and instructional support personnel for their resilience and work during the transition.
        - **Arizona General Education Curriculum / Pathways**
            - NPC was an early adopter of the new Arizona general education curriculum/pathway initiative.
            - The college worked with high schools to create pathways into NPC.
            - 55 students completed the pathway, with approximately 36% earning their first credential at NPC.
            - The college intends to replicate this pathway model with additional high schools.

Communications and Digital Marketing
Associate Vice President of Communications Katie Matott reported substantial growth in digital engagement:

- Website traffic increased 25% in the past year, resulting in approximately double the traffic compared with when the current team began.
- The website remains a primary entry point for prospective students and provides access to applications, resources, and student services.

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu

- Website accessibility was already approximately **90**% compliant, allowing the department to address remaining issues proactively.
- Digital advertising and social media content production have largely been brought in-house, reducing costs and allowing faster adjustments.
- New marketing technology is being used to communicate with students throughout their journey—from inquiry and application through enrollment, completion, and alumni engagement.
- Social media followers increased approximately 10% during the year, representing roughly a 40% increase from the previous year.
- Social media is being used for recruitment, employment advertising, news, updates, and community engagement.

Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation

Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness Dr. Farah Bughio faced significant staffing challenges after losing key personnel but successfully maintained its required responsibilities.

- Despite being understaffed and losing institutional knowledge, the department met its compliance, reporting, and accreditation obligations.
- A new team member, Brigid O'Brien, has joined the department.
- The department is working toward becoming more data-driven in institutional decision-making.
- A major upcoming project is development of a data governance framework in collaboration with IT.
- The timing coincides with the ERP implementation and provides an opportunity to establish better practices for understanding and using institutional data.
- Planning is also beginning for the college's 2029 comprehensive accreditation review.
- A temporary committee will be formed to collect evidence, develop the accreditation narrative, and prepare for the eventual HLC site visit.

Chief of Staff

Chief of Staff Rebecca Hunt outlined several priorities:

- Improve the efficiency of the Procedure Committee through technology and better tracking systems.
- Use tools such as Microsoft Lists to track procedures, responsibilities, updates, and progress.
- Develop stronger reporting and tracking for the strategic plan.
- Improve communication among shared governance groups to reduce organizational silos.
- Establish more systematic communication so information moves across and between governance groups.
- The Chief of Staff acknowledged that these initiatives must be balanced against the ongoing effort to stabilize the ERP system.

Dr. Lawson recognized the work of AVP Rich Chanick and Board Member Kristine Laughter in developing relationships with community organizations, businesses, government leaders, and other regional stakeholders.Their advocacy helped advance a significant regional development opportunity intended to expand educational and workforce opportunities. The President emphasized the importance of serving the college's entire 22,000-square-mile service area. A $700,000 check from the Halle Foundation was presented to the Board on behalf of the college.

Dr. Lawson highlighted several areas of future development including continued discussion of student housing/dormitory options, expansion of student spaces and facilities, and continued development of campuses and workforce-training facilities. Dr. Lawson emphasized that the college must prepare students for the future rather than simply for the past.

Agenda Item 8: Consent Agenda

A. TNT Public Hearing Minutes for May 16, 2026
B. Budget Public Hearing Minutes for May 16, 2026
C. Special Budget Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2026
D. Board Regular Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2026
E. Board Executive Session Minutes for May 16, 2026
F. IGA between NPC and the Arizona Dept. of Homeland Security

Chair Robinson called for the vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Black, Ms. Sekayumptewa, Ms. Laughter and Chair Robinson voted in the affirmative. Mr. Leslie left the meeting at 11:00 – he was not present for this vote. There were no votes against.

Agenda Item 9: Moved to follow Agenda Item 3

Agenda Item 11: DGB Agenda Items and Informational Needs for Future Meetings.
Board Member Laughter proposed moving forward with changing the college's public/DBA name by dropping "Pioneer" from Northland Pioneer College. Ms. Laughter requested to review past NPC President Chato Hazelbaker's white paper developed in 2022 regarding the name change. It was noted that because the college's legal name is the Navajo County Community College District, changing the DBA would require a resolution from the District Governing Board. Ms. Laughter requested that the name-change proposal be placed on a future Board agenda for consideration.
Chair Robinson acknowledged receiving and reviewing a report concerning contingency planning for the White Mountain Campus.
Chair Robinson noted that some departmental references in current procedures need to be updated.
Board members were asked to check their availability for a potential special meeting, with an availability survey to be distributed by Julia Wilson.

Agenda Item 12: Board Report/Summary of Current and Upcoming Events
Allied Health Students Completer Ceremony July 14, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center on the Silver Creek Campus in Snowflake.

Agenda Item 13: Announcement of Next Regular Meeting
Chair Robinson announced the next regular meeting of the DGB would be held August 18, 2026.

Agenda Item 14: Adjournment
Chair Robinson declared the meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia Wilson

Julia Wilson
Recording Secretary to the Board

Northland Pioneer College
Post Office Box 610 • Holbrook, AZ 86025 • (928) 524-7311 • Fax (928) 524-7312 • www.npc.edu